

Florence, New Jersey
March 4, 2015

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by Council President Sandusky at 8:15 PM. President Sandusky led the Salute to the Flag.

The Opening Statement was read by the Township Clerk: Notice was sent to the Register News for information; posted on the municipal bulletin board; placed on the web-site on January 8, 2015; and advertised in the Burlington Co. Times on January 11, 2015.

Present: Frank Baldorossi, Ted Lovenduski, David Woolston, Jerry Sandusky
(Paul Ostrander absent due to a prior commitment)

Also present: Mayor Craig Wilkie; Richard A. Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas A. Sahol, Assistant Administrator; Kelly Grant, Esq., Township Solicitor; Russell Trice, Water & Sewer Engineer; Joy M. Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

Woolston made a MOTION; seconded by Lovenduski to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried. Unanimous approval.

- Township Council Regular Session – February 18, 2015
- Township Council Closed Session – February 18, 2015

FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Woolston, to receive and file the Clerk's Report for February. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

It was on the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi to approve the **Treasurer's Bill List**.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander

Motion carried.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE: None at this time.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 3/04/15

APPLICATIONS: None at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Woolston; seconded by Baldorossi to close the public comments. Roll call vote - all ayes. Unanimous approval.

RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-71
Introduce 2015 Municipal Budget**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-72
Approve Change Order No. 1 for Contract for
Skylights in the Municipal Building
Contractor: Garozzo & Scimeca Construction, Inc.
2922 Fries Mill Road
Williamstown, NJ 08094**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-73
Award of Contract for
Conversion of Digesters to Sludge Holding Tanks
To: Jev Construction, LLC
116 West Main Street, Floor 2
Clinton, NJ 08809**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2015-74
Deny Request for Release of Performance Bond for
The Estates at Oak Mill, Sanitary Sewer, Phase II
#268002077
and
Releasing Performance Bonds (Conditioned upon Posting Two Year Maintenance Bonds)
Phase I, Water Distribution #1034875 and
Sanitary Sewer #1034869 and
Phase II, Water Distribution #268002076**

Florence Township Regular Session 3/04/15

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-75
Retire ABC Club License for
SOCIETA DI MUTUO SOCCORSO GUGLIEMLA MARCONI LODGE
ABC License No. 0315-31-021-001

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-76
Reappointment of Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
Philip Drangula

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-77
Appointing Assistant Coordinator
Office of Emergency Management
James R. Karwacki

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-78
Appoint Health Insurance Broker
Anderson Jackson Metts (AJM Insurance)

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-79
Reappointing Registrar of Vital Statistics

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi to approve Resolution Nos. 2015-71 through 2015-79.

Upon roll call, Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ostrander Motion carried.

ORDINANCES

ORDINANCE NO. 2015-06
BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
OF \$200,000 FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWNSHIP BUILDINGS
IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE,
IN THE COUNTY OF BURLINGTON, NEW JERSEY AND
AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$190,000 BONDS OR NOTES
OF THE TOWNSHIP FOR FINANCING PART OF THE APPROPRIATION
(2nd Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption)

Florence Township Council Regular Session 3/04/15

Administrator Brook said the Township has been financing improvements to the Municipal Building and the library that were long overdue. The work at the library will include new lighting, replacement of some of the tile ceilings and a new roof. When the ordinance was done initially, there were not enough funds included. The work at the Municipal Building is almost completed and it is a tremendous improvement. This ordinance allows the township to completely fund the final stages of the job, and that is the library work.

It was the MOTION of Lovenduski; seconded by Baldorossi to open the meeting to the public regarding Ordinance No. 2015-06. Seeing no one wishing to be heard, it was the MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to close the public hearing.

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to adopt Ordinance No. 2015-06.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander

Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2015-07
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING LAND ACQUISITION FOR
REAL PROPERTY, LOCATED WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP
REDEVELOPMENT AREA, IDENTIFIED ON THE
MUNICIPAL TAX MAP AS BLOCK 160.01, LOT 15
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 3/18/15)**

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2015-07 and set the public hearing and adoption for March 18, 2015.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander

Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2015-08
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF
REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 147.01 LOT 4.02
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE FOR FUTURE
POTENTIAL ROADWAY DEVELOPMENT
(1st Reading) (Public Hearing & Adoption 3/18/15)**

Florence Township Council Regular Session 3/04/15

It was the MOTION of Baldorossi, seconded by Lovenduski to approve Ordinance No. 2015-08 and set the public hearing and adoption for March 18, 2015.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

AYES: Baldorossi, Lovenduski, Woolston, Sandusky

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ostrander Motion carried.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers:

Council President Sandusky commended Assistant Administrator Sahol for the improvements that were done at the Municipal Building. He said the Assistant Administrator was instrumental in many of the decisions that were made regarding the colors and materials used.

Administration

Mayor

Mayor Wilkie thanked the Council Members who were able to attend the **Fire District Dinner**. **Albert Jacoby, Sr.** was honored at the dinner. He was the **treasurer for 34 years**. He was also honored for having the highest response time and responding to the most calls over the past year.

Mayor Wilkie said tonight's ordinances aim to get rid of blight in the community. The township is purchasing the **Nirdip Motel on Route 130**. It is in the Redevelopment Area and will make that section of Route 130 more attractive. He appreciated the support of Council and the administration. The other parcel is a small property but it is an area of blight. It is located on Railroad Avenue.

The budget was introduced tonight. The **tax rate has remained the same since 2012** and the same was true for this year. It includes a road program and it continues the township's ability to grow. It hasn't been easy to realize his goal of keeping the budget stable. A number of employees retired and were not replaced and others had to take on new responsibilities. There were some software changes to make things more efficient and better for the employees. There were surplus funds accumulated to keep taxes stable. He believes 2016 looks much better. The township will be able to continue to provide the same level of services at a time when other municipalities have had to raise taxes and reduce services. The township has done well and he appreciated the support of Council and administration, it was not an easy process.

Mayor Wilkie noted the township schools would be closed the following day due to the inclement weather. The high school musical was moved to Friday and Saturday night and Sunday afternoon.

Mayor Wilkie said the ratables in the township will be dropping, so most residents will be paying less in taxes. The same was true for 2014.

Council President Sandusky said at the Fire Department dinner there were some members honored for their many years of service (50 & 60 years). He asked if the Mayor would send a letter of gratitude from the township.

Florence Township Council Regular Session 3/04/15

Administrator

Administrator Brook said the township is still working with the Department of Environmental Protection and Engineer Trice's office on the air monitoring issue that was raised about a year ago. It sometimes takes a long time when dealing with the DEP.

Assistant Municipal Administrator – Nothing at this time.

Division of Law – Nothing at this time.

Division of Engineering – Nothing at this time.

Unfinished Business – Nothing at this time.

New Business – Nothing at this time.

Township-Wide Wellness Initiative

Administrator Brook explained employee Nancy Erlston has been communicating with Mayor Wilkie and Assistant Administrator Sahol. Ms. Erlston is extremely involved in wellness on behalf of the employees, along with David Lebak and Assistant Administrator Sahol. The proposal is to expand it into the community.

Council President Sandusky liked that the event would held on the same day as the **Police Department Annual Bike Rodeo**. Hopefully, it will bring more people.

It was the **MOTION** of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to give the **Wellness Committee permission to pursue the Township Wide Wellness Initiative on Saturday, May 23, 2015**. This is Memorial Day weekend also. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Open to the Public

Council President Sandusky opened the meeting to the public at this time.

Joseph Csik, 45 East Fifth Street, jokingly inquired if Administrator Brook got hazard pay for an injury he had received because of ice?

It was the **MOTION** of Woolston; seconded by Lovenduski to close the public portion of the meeting. Roll call vote – all ayes. Unanimous approval.

8:30 PM MOTION of Lovenduski, seconded by Baldorossi to adjourn to closed session. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER, RMC/MMC
Township Clerk
/aek